

**MINUTES of the FULL COUNCIL of STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL held at
Tantobie Community Centre, Tantobie on Tuesday 23rd January 2024 at 6.30pm**

O Milburn*	L Ferry	D Tully	H Clark	G Binney
A Clegg§	S McMahon	C Hampson	J Stephenson	A Hanson
M Thompson	J Nicholson	A Jones		

* Chairman § Vice-Chairman

OFFICERS: Dianne Rickaby (Locum Town Clerk)
 Ann Barry (Finance Officer & RFO)
 James Harper (Environment Services Team Leader - ESTL)
 Alex Ferry (Events & Administration Support Officer)

GUESTS: Alasdair Watson (DLI Association Stanley & Consett Branch)
 Vince McMahon (Member of the DLI)
 Linda Kirk (Just for Women)
 Debra Rogan (Just for Women)

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

119/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED: That apologies were **RECEIVED** and **ACCEPTED** from Councillors J McMahon and C Marshall. Cllrs C Bell, D Fall, J Kane, K Wilson and M Martin were absent.

120/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were raised.
 It is **NOTED** Durham County Councillors who are also Town Councillors have an interest in Agenda Item 15. Allotments.

121/23 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

No announcements from the Mayor or Deputy Mayor.

122/23 LEADER'S STATEMENT

There is no update from the Leader of the Council.

123/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Moved to item 9 of the agenda.

124/23 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Cllr H Clark advised of error in minutes of 28th November 2023, this will be brought back for resolution at Full Council meeting 27th February 2024.

125/23 PROPOSED MEMORIAL

Members received a presentation from Consett and Stanley branch of the DLI Association about plans for a Stanley War Memorial.

It is **NOTED** by Cllr J Nicholson that as a DCC Councillor she could not vote on this issue as the siting of the proposed memorial is DCC land.

Members **AGREED** to the concept in principle.

126/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One member of the public was present, no questions were raised, and no questions had been received in advance.

127/23 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT & BANK RECONCILIATION

RESOVLED: It was proposed by Cllr. A Hanson and seconded by Cllr. G Binney to **APPROVE** the Schedule of Payments and Receipts and **NOTE** the Bank Reconciliation & Bank Balances for November 2023 & December 2023.

128/23 QUARTER 3 BUDGET MONITOR REPORT

RESOLVED: The report for 2023/24 - Quarter 3 is **NOTED** by all members.

129/23 LOCUM CLERK UPDATE

Members **RECEIVED** an update from the Locum Town Clerk, the report in discussion was circulated to all members prior to the meeting.

A copy of the report is filed in the council offices and a copy can be made via the council's publication scheme.

RESOLVED: Council members **APPROVE** the transfer of the allotment sites and acceptance of the land as of 1st April 2024.

Cllr J Stephenson exits the meeting at 19.09pm

Cllr J Nicholson requests at the earliest opportunity can a full list of the Allotments Stanley Town Council are adopting be provided to council members.

130/23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED: No objections received for the planning document for a public path diversion.

RESOLVED: Council have **NOTED** the applications and no objections received.

131/23 UPDATE FROM DURHAM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

No updates reported, it is **NOTED** Durham County Council Full Council meeting takes place 24th January 2024.

132/23 PARTNERSHIP GROUPS

Members **RECEIVED** a report from representatives of Just for Women, Linda Kirk and Debra Rogan.

133/23 ALLOTMENTS

Council **RECEIVED** an update from the ESTL on the timeline for taking over the allotments.

134/23 BUDGET 2024/25

The Responsible Finance Officer update to members confirming the precept demand for 2024-25 has been signed and submitted to DCC.

135/23 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORTS

Members **NOTED** the Internal Audit Reports from external auditor G Fletcher.

It was raised that the external auditor has not been to council to present the reports for some time. It was **AGREED** an invitation to present the report will be extended for future meetings.

136/23 ROYAL GARDEN PARTIES 2024

RESOLVED: No nominations were put forward.

137/23 APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING

RESOLVED: Item to be referred to the Stanley Fund.

138/23 CDALC PRESIDENT NOMINATIONS

RESOLVED: Members have abstained from nominating.
Following discussions more information regarding CDALC has been requested.

139/23 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 27th February 2024 at 6.30pm; The Greenhouse, Greencroft Business Centre, DH9 7XN

(Councilor Surgery will be held by Cllrs. at 5:30pm)

141/23 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Council **RESOLVED** that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Justification for excluding the public and press from consideration of the following item: Staffing confidentiality.

Streaming and recording of the meeting was stopped at this point.

Justification of excluding the public and press for the consideration of the following items in Part B as discussion falls under the Data Protection Act 2018.

142/23 HR COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: Council discussed the make-up of the interim HR Committee and that more members are required to sit on the committee. Cllr Clark advised she would sit on the committee.

A delegation was given to the committee to look at all the HR matters outstanding. In the longer term it was suggested that a larger HR committee be formed at the Annual Meeting in May 2024.

SIGNED



Cllr Olga Milburn
STC Town Mayor